

Message Text

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ACTION AID-31

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SR-02 ORM-03 EUR-25 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 RSR-01

RSC-01 /114 W

----- 082249

O R 141240Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7668

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMAKO 2526

DROUGHT

E.O. 11652: GDS

PLEASE PASS TO DOCTOR ADAMS

SUBJ: MEDICINES FOR DROUGHT VICTIMS MALI

REF: BAMAKO 2495, STATE 156001

1. MALI MINISTER HEALTH, ALY CISSE, UPON MY REQUEST, HAS SUBMITTED LONG LIST MEDICINES WHICH HE CLAIMS URGENTLY NEEDED FOR RELIEF DROUGHT VICTIMS. PRELIMINARY CHECKING INDICATES THAT COST FULFILLING 50 PERCENT REQUEST WOULD BE IN EXCESS \$US 110,000 AND MANY MEDICINES REQUESTED WOULD NOT HAVE APPLICATION POCKETS DISTRESS TIMBUKTU AND GAO.

2. AFTER CONSULTATION EMBASSY NURSE, MAXINE BRADRIK WHO HAS FIVE YEARS EXPERIENCE MALI, SUGGESTION MADE THAT EMERGENCY PURCHASE VITAMINS BE CONSIDERED FOR SHIPMENT ON AUGUST 24 C-130 ROTATOR AIRCRAFT OR BY COMMERCIAL AIRFREIGHT. GOM LIST VITAMIN NEEDS AS FOLLOWS:

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1. INJECTIBLES

5,000 AMPOULES BECOZIME (VITAMIN B COMPLEX)
8,000 AMPOULES VITAMIN B1
5,000 AMPOULES VITAMIN B12 (1,000 MICROGRAMS)
1,000 AMPOULES VITAMIN C (500 MILLIGRAMS)
500 FLACONS OF TRIDOCELAN B1, B6, B12

2. TABLET

5,000 BECOZIME (VITAMIN B. COMPLEX)
5,000 B1 (50 MILLIGRAMS)
8,000 B1 (250 MILLIGRAMS)
2,500 MULTI-VITAMIN (?1, B6, B12)

AMOUNTS VITAMINS LISTED ABOVE COULD BE DOUBLED DEPENDING ON COST. U.S. PURCHASE VITAMINS SUGGESTED SINCE LABELING ENGLISH LANGUAGE WOULD PRESENT LESS PROBLEM THAN WITH OTHER DRUGS WHICH SHOULD BE PURCHASED FRANCE FOR FRENCH LABELING AND INSTRUCTIONS.

3. AMBASSADOR EMERGENCY FUND APPROXIMATELY \$US 17,000 COULD BE USED PURCHASE ANTIBIOTICS AND OTHER MEDICINE FROM FRANCE PROVIDED VITAMINS CAN BE FUNDED FROM WASHINGTON DROUGHT EMERGENCY FUNDS.

4. WEST GERMAN AMBASSADOR TOLD ME THAT FRG HAD RECENTLY SUPPLIED MORE THAN 4 TONS PHARMACEUTICALS FOR DROUGHT VICTIMS AND ITEM AUGUST 13TH L'ESSOR INDICATED USSR DONATED ANOTHER TWO TONS.

5. EMBASSY CONVINCED THAT MOST EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATE RELIEF POCKETS DISTRESS TIMBUKTU AND GAO WOULD BE THROUGH INTERVENTION PROFESSIONAL STAFF SUCH GROUPS CRS, UNICEF, INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS, CARE AND POSSIBLY U.S. ARMY MEDICAL FIELD STATION. EXTREME CASES UNDERNOURISHMENT AMONG MANY CHILDREN TIMBUKTU WOULD REQUIRE MORE ASSISTANCE THAN SIMPLY GRAIN DISTRIBUTION. ASSUME SOME OF THESE PRIVATE CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE APPEALED GOM CONCERNING RELIEF DROUGHT VICTIMS BUT HAVE MET WITH NEGATIVE BECAUSE OF GOM POLICY CONTROL ALL FOOD DISTRIBUTION AND MEDICAL CARE IN MALI.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY PURCHASE VITAMINS U.S. FOR TIMELY SHIPMENT ON C-130 OR BY COMMERCIAL AIR FREIGHT, (B) CONCUR EMBASSY'S PLAN USE REMAINDER AMBASSADOR'S CONFIDENTIAL

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EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND PURCHASE ANTIBIOTICS AND OTHER MEDICINES, AND (C) CONTACT VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WITH SUGGESTION THEY MAKE FORMAL PROPOSAL TO GOM ASSIST FEEDING AND MEDICAL PROGRAM TIMBUKTU OR GAO BUT CAUTIONING UNLIKELY GOM WILL ACCEPT OFFER. EMBASSY BELIEVES THIS SHOULD BE DONE IN ORDER LEAVE NO DOUBT ABOUT GOM POSITION WHICH ALREADY HAS BEEN EXPRESSED SEVERAL TIMES BUT OUTSIDE CHANCE THEY MIGHT ACCEPT CONCRETE OFFER IF CAREFULLY PREPARED.

KUNIHOLM

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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